

Isaac Davis

Pennsylvania

admitted March 27. 1820

Trupis Acid

James Blair
St. Andrew's Church
1822

A. Disputations
on the Medical and Physiologists
properties of Arsenic acid.

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Of the various subjects which present themselves to our notice, none appears more deserving of attention, than that very powerful and singular chemical substance the *Uric Acid*, and as little original matter can be expected from an individual, but as yet entering upon the mere threshold of his profession, I have preferred instituting a series of experiments, which might prove or invalidate the assertions of the celebrated *Magendie*, relative to the action of this substance on the animal economy.

It will be seen that I have not digressed from the avowed object of this dissertation by framing theories or supporting hypotheses, founded perhaps in error and based upon conjecture, but that I have been content to quote the *Salut* of ingenious Speculation, to Persons more fully acquainted with the principles of Physiology and medicine, that I have been just satisfied to *look* over the path traced out before me by the superior industry and genius of the illustrious French Physiologist -

The history of *Uric Acid* commenced early in

[illegible]

In eighteenth century, and the acid itself owes its origin like very many important chemical discoveries to an unexpected and primitive circumstance. We are informed that Distick a colour maker of Dublin procured from his friend 1899 a quantity of bota, which has been calcined with animal matter for the purpose of obtaining a red pigment from a combination of cerium and iron. Contrary to all expectation a fine Prussian blue was formed and in this we recognise the well known Prussian blue.

It would be superfluous to enter upon an examination of the many vague and ridiculous theories which were invented in order to account for the production of Prussian blue. Suffice it to say, that it was on every side granted that all that was necessary to procure this substance was to expose animal matter, such as blood, in contact with the vegetable alkali to the action of a powerful heat for some time in a crucible, afterwards to combine the now developed principle with some of the preparations of iron. Such by a process which I propose to detail, separates from this pigment an acid which is the subject

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of this operation, and which has derived the name of *Dropin* acid from the source from which it is most usually obtained.

Wohler mixed together in a state of fine powder, ten parts of *Dropin* blue, and five parts of red oxide of mercury, prepared by nitric acid, upon them he poured thirty parts of water, and exposed the mixture in a glass flask to a boiling temperature. The blue colour gradually disappeared, and the contents of the vessel assumed a greenish yellow, he boiled for a short time the substances upon each other, and when cool poured them on a filter, and examining the transparent fluid, which passed through he detected in it a certain principle which could not easily be referred to either of the individual substances which had been employed. But calling into view their reciprocal influence on each other, he arrived at the conclusion that the colouring principle of the *Dropin* blue had abandoned the iron, and had transferred itself to the mercury, a few simple experiments established the correctness of this reasoning, and pursuing the same train of induction, and subjecting his theory to the test of experiment, he obtained this very peculiar principle in a separate and independent form.

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subject of the present war, and the
people are very anxious to know the
truth about it. The Government has
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... and I do not think that I have ever
before seen a more beautiful scene. The
water is so clear, and the rocks so white, that
it is almost impossible to see the bottom of the
lake. The water is so still, that it is like a
mirror. The sky is so blue, and the clouds so
white, that it is like a picture. The
mountains are so high, and the valleys so
green, that it is like a paradise. The
water is so clear, and the rocks so white, that
it is almost impossible to see the bottom of the
lake. The water is so still, that it is like a
mirror. The sky is so blue, and the clouds so
white, that it is like a picture. The
mountains are so high, and the valleys so
green, that it is like a paradise.

It was almost too late to see the
mountains, and I was forced to leave the
boat. I was so tired, and the boat was so
small, that I could not see the mountains.
The water was so clear, and the rocks so
white, that it was almost impossible to see
the bottom of the lake. The water was so
still, that it was like a mirror. The sky
was so blue, and the clouds so white, that
it was like a picture. The mountains were
so high, and the valleys so green, that it
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the clouds so white, that it was like a
picture. The mountains were so high, and
the valleys so green, that it was like a
paradise.





The first of these is the fact that the
 water is not only pure but also
 is very soft and is not
 subject to the usual changes of temperature.
 The second is the fact that the water is
 so pure that it is not only fit for drinking
 but also for the most delicate of the arts.
 The third is the fact that the water is
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 The tenth is the fact that the water is
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I intend to visit the three towns with
me at the suggestion of Mr. Wells. I expect to
be here by direct movement. If the canal was
disposable of galena coal, it would, I believe
improve it. Before my departure, a day or so out
before I visit to see and see operations, the coal, being
at the time be. much above the level, was
not done. Before leaving, my little share in the
business of the canal I am sure has been
done. I am sure the canal is a great



[Faint handwritten notes]

1870

[Faint handwritten notes at the bottom of the page]

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 2. *... ..*

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There are also some small islands in the
bay, but all are too small to build upon.

and the other two are in the same order, with
the second and third in the same order.

to not want to be alone, I was, yesterday
by the time I was in the hospital

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to us, and I am glad to hear of your success. at
your service -



The above is a list of the names of the persons who have been
 named in the above letter. The names of the persons who have been
 named in the above letter are as follows:

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The medical work is pretty complete with regard to the forms of our medicine and this is considered, for the present, the best of the whole. The same reason for our success is, however, the great haste in which it is done, and the small amount of time given to each case.

[illegible]



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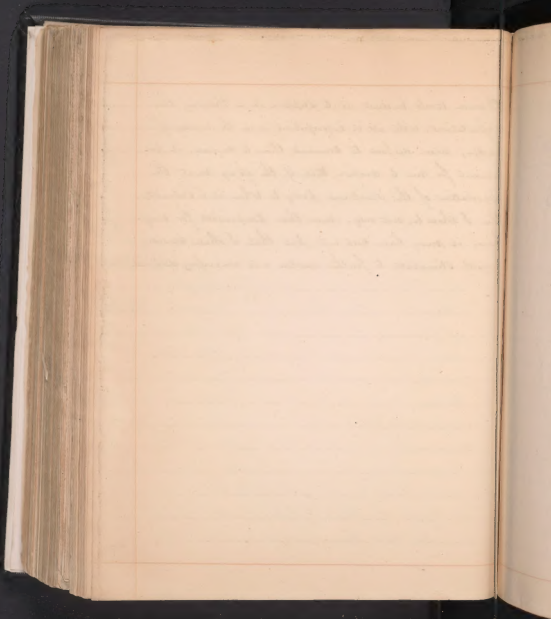
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Opinion is
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Opinion would induce us to suppress it - Throwing this
dissertation, with all its imperfections, upon the mercy of
judges, more disposed to commend than to censure, it has
remained for me to declare, that if this essay meets the
approbation of the illustrious body to whom it is submitted,
then I shall be, not only, more than compensated for any
pains it may have cost me, but that I shall consider
myself stimulated to further exertion and increasing diligence.



Journal

Edward L. G. Johnson, M.D.

about 1850